

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 PM-04 DODE-00 USIE-00

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APPROVED BY ACDA/IR:ACFLOYD

EUR/RPM:GCHRISTIANSON

C:WSHINN

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ACDA/IR:DENGEL

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JCS:RMCCANN

NSC:SHADLEY

S/S: FO TIZ

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S E C R E T STATE 198380

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, MBFR, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: WG REPORTS

REFERENCE: A. NATO 4358 B. NATO 4359 C. MBFR 405

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1. WE BELIEVE LATEST WG STUDIES ON DEFINITION OF FORCES

(REF A) AND SERVICE SUB-CEILINGS (REF B) PROVIDE AN ADEQUATE MILITARY-TECHNICAL BASIS FOR SPC DISCUSSION OF THESE ISSUES.

2. YOU SHOULD COMPLIMENT WG CHAIRMAN ON THE TECHNICAL QUALITY OF THE TWO PAPERS.

3. HOWEVER, YOU SHOULD NOTE THAT THE U.S. BELIEVES REDUCTION LIMITS OUTLINED IN CM(73)83 (FINAL) NEED NOT BE SO STRICTLY INTERPRETED AS TO PRECLUDE NATO REDUCTIONS TO A LEVEL OF 700,000 GROUND PERSONNEL. THESE LIMITS MAY REQUIRE FURTHER STUDY LATER IN LIGHT OF THE PROPOSED INCLUSION OF AIR MANPOWER IN THE COMMON CEILING AND FUTURE REDEFINITION DISCUSSIONS WITH THE EAST. IN ANY CASE, PARA 13 OF THE DRAFT WG STUDY ON FORCE DEFINITIONS (REF A) IS MISLEADING BY SUGGESTING THAT A DECREASE OF 17,000 IN REQUIRED WARSAW PACT GROUND

FORCE REDUCTIONS FOLLOWS FROM FORCE RE-DEFINITIONS.

4. IN ADDITION TO THE APPROACH OUTLINED IN REF A, WG SHOULD TAKE NOTE OF THE ALTERNATIVE COURSE DISCUSSED IN PARA 8 OF REF C. MISSION SHOULD NOT PRESENT THIS ALTERNATIVE AS A U.S. PREFERENCE, BUT SHOULD SEEK TO HAVE IT ADDRESSED IN REPORT WITHOUT UNDULY DELAYING ISSUANCE OF A FINAL WG REPORT. KISSINGER

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